

ENGAGEMENT OF NATIONAL CADET CORPS (NCC) CADETS IN DISASTER RISK MITIGATION UNDER PANDEMIC COVID-19: A CASE STUDY OF TAMILNADU, PUDUCHERRY AND ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

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ABSTRACT

Disaster risk mitigation has become most important area in disaster management, especially in India. Pandemic COVID19 also comes under disaster, and has been managed accordingly under National Disaster Management Act 2005. While medical professionals were handling the patients in hospitals/labs, greater efforts and teams were required for awareness campaign for following safe practices and enforcing it. Our national disaster management policy and plan still do not have detailed guidelines for engagement of NCC cadets/youth organizations in such situations. Considering the need, government of India had engaged NCC cadets formally for the first time on newly drafted guidelines by NCC HQ. This paper through a case study, analysis and hypothesis testing clearly bring out the efficacy and adequacy of newly formed guidelines, effectiveness and impact of engagement of trained volunteer NCC cadets for risk mitigation tasks during COVID-19 as observed by the administration.

KEYWORDS: *Disaster Risk; Mitigation; Pandemic; COVID-19; NCC*